

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor :Takaaki SORIN, et al.
Filed :Concurrently herewith
For :SURFACE PLASMON
Serial Number :Concurrently herewith

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 6, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the non US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

For documents written in a language other than English, English language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(3).

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian S. Myers", written over a horizontal line.

Brian S. Myers
Reg. No. 46,947

Customer No:026304
Docket No: SAN 20.947

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. :

Filing Date :

First Named Inventor: T. SORIN

Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : SAN 20.947

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures App
		6,128,091		Uchida et al.	10-03-2000	Corresponds To JP 11-642216
		5,455,178		Fattinger	10-03-1995	Corresponds to JP 5-346398
		5,479,260		Fattinger	12-26-1995	Corresponds to JP 6-300683
		4,931,384		Layton et al.	06-05-1990	Corresponds to HEI 6-27742 and JP 2502222

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		WO 99/66330	PCT	Imation Corp.	12-23-1999	
		5-288672	JP	Nippon Laser Denshi KK	11-02-1993	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
Examiner Signature	Date Considered		

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1⁶ if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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